

Remarks

Entry of the foregoing amendments and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1, 3, 6-13, 15, 17-26, 28-29, 31-32, and 35-36.

Claims 33 and 34 were rejected under 35 §103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 01/091668 A1 to Whitmore in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,258,098 B1 to Taylor et al. Independent claim 33 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 35. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 33 is allowable over the cited references. The Applicants also respectfully submit that claim 34 is allowable over the cited references at least because of its dependency from claim 33.

The Examiner will note that claim 36 has been amended to place the claim in independent form and to include all of the limitation of the base claim (claim 33 prior to the current amendment).

The Applicants respectfully submit that newly added claims 39-41 are allowable over the cited art.

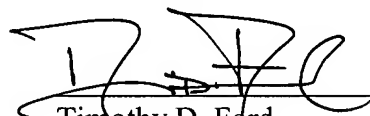
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Dated: October 26, 2004

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